



## 2019 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report **The Town of Rising Sun, Maryland**

We're pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. This report covers the period of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. This report is being placed in a local paper for general distribution to residents of the Town of Rising Sun. This report is also available at the Rising Sun Town Hall, 1 East Main Street and on our website at: [risingsunmd.com](http://risingsunmd.com).

Your water comes from five municipal wells that vary in depth from 85 feet to 400 feet. All five wells are owned by the Town of Rising Sun and are located within Town limits. The underground source of water is located within fractures of the bedrock. The Town also restricts any activities that could contaminate them. For additional information about your water, you may contact Ron Thomas, Water Plant Operator, at (410) 658-5353 or you may attend a public meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners. The meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Rising Sun Town Hall. A source water assessment is available upon request. A source water assessment was performed by MDE and is available on their website, [mde.maryland.gov](http://mde.maryland.gov).

The Town of Rising Sun conducts tests on the drinking water throughout the year as required by State and Federal regulations. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC sets guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants. These guidelines are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The source of drinking water tap water and bottled water includes rivers, lakes, streams, ponds reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from humans.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before treatment include:

**Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

**Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.

**Radioactive contaminants**, which are naturally occurring.

**Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## WATER QUALITY DATA

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2018 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1, to December 31, 2018. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

### Terms and abbreviations used below:

- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)**: the level of a contaminant in drinking water which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**: the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Action Level (AL)**: the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **n/a** – not applicable, **nd** – not detectable at testing limit, **ppb** – parts per billion or micrograms per liter, **ppm** – parts per million or milligrams per liter, **pCi/l** – picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation).

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

MD0070021

TOWN OF RISING SUN

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2018

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

For more information regarding this report contact:

Name Ronald E Thomas\_\_\_\_\_

Phone 410-68-5353\_\_\_\_\_

TOWN OF RISING SUN is Purchased Surface Water

Este informe  
contiene información  
muy importante  
sobre el agua que  
usted bebe.  
Tradúzcalo ó hable  
con alguien que lo  
entienda bien.

## Sources of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## Lead and Copper

### Definitions:

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Lead and Copper	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2018	1.3	1.3	0.32	0	ppm	Copper	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2018	0	15	2	0	ppb	Lead	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

## Water Quality Test Results

### Definitions:

The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

### Avg:

Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

### Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:

The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

### Level 1 Assessment:

A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

### Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:

The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

### Level 2 Assessment:

A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

### Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:

The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

### na:

not applicable.

### mrem:

millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

Water Quality Test Results

ppb:	micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm:	milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
Treatment Technique or TT:	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

## Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2018	0.8	0.8 - 0.8	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	08/19/2016	6.2	6.2 - 6.2	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	08/10/2015	0.0198	0.0198 - 0.0198	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] - Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.	2018	6	2.3 - 5.6	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	05/31/2017	5.2	5.2 - 5.2	0	50	pCi/L	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Combined Radium 226/228	05/31/2017	0.3	0.3 - 0.3	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	05/31/2017	6	6 - 6	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.





## Violations Table

### Consumer Confidence Rule

The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of the water delivered by the systems.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
CCR ADEQUACY/AVAILABILITY/CONTENT	10/01/2018	10/12/2018	We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality of our drinking water and the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water.
CCR REPORT	07/01/2018	2018	We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that informs you about the quality of our drinking water and characterizes the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water.

### Lead and Copper Rule

The Lead and Copper Rule protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
FOLLOW-UP OR ROUTINE TAP M/R (LCR)	10/01/2018	11/09/2018	We failed to report timely for lead and copper testing of our drinking water. The reporting violation was returned to compliance on 11/9/18. The results were from samples taken in 2018 and were below the Action Levels for lead and copper.